

Functional Regional Planning



Functional Regional Planning

Smaller budgets and changes in the Navy, such as major claimant roll up and regionalization, brought a new approach to planning. In the past Navy bases were autonomous. Each base had a Master Plan and redundant resources. Now, the approach is to plan on a regional basis, with shared resources.

The process uses Visioning and Scenario Planning. Both of these methodologies are based on Strategic Planning and allow an organization to create its own future in the face of a very dynamic and changing environment.

Visioning is a planning method in which a desired “end state” is chosen. The next step is to work backwards from the desired end state to develop a history of what had to have happen to achieve the Vision. Scenario Planning can help overcome anxieties about the future by placing bounds on future uncertainty. Scenario Planning implies the future is not fixed but can be shaped by decisions and actions of individuals, organizations, and institutions. Where Visioning and Scenario Planning identify possible futures that might occur, Strategic Planning creates a vision of what the organization wants to occur and transforms the organization along with the actions required to do it.

There are five steps in the Visioning process:

1. Characterize the current situation
2. Define needs and requirements
3. Characterize key constraints and boundaries
4. Develop the vision
5. Assess options and develop the plan

Functional Regional Planning approaches planning with a regional focus on functional areas. Regional plans to date include energy, waterfront, airfields, housing, and administrative facilities. This concept gives the Navy best value operating costs while maximizing efficiency. It uses facilities and land to best advantage to support the Navy’s mission, and provide a quality work and living environment for our personnel.

A regional waterfront plan for the Commander Naval Region Mid-Atlantic, completed in 1999, provides a regional plan for all waterfront activities in Hampton Roads. It identified \$450 million in life cycle cost savings. Similarly, a regional energy vision completed in 1997 provided recommendations for strategic energy management. It positioned the Navy to take advantage of the move to deregulated energy procurement.